

recorded, prove that it is not accidental, but due to some cause operating generally in their formation.

I bring these remarks forward, in the hope that further observations may be elicited from some of our members or others, on the phenomena of the storm, as well as to draw attention to the importance and interest of this branch of meteorology, in case future storms may afford opportunities of detailed observation.

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*Observations on keeping Salt-water Fish alive for a considerable time.—*

*By* LT.-COL. R. C. TYTLER.

[Received 28th Feb., 1864.]

[Read 6th April, 1864.]

In offering the following observations for publication, I should here remark that they are entirely the result of a great many experiments, made during several months of my stay at Port Blair, and which I am happy to say have been completely successful.

1. If fresh water from the sea be put into a vessel and changed every twelve hours, sea fish will live in it.

2. It requires a quart beer bottle full of sea water, to keep a fish the size of a minnow alive for twelve hours.

3. After twelve hours, the water begins to be offensive, (from the escape of Sulphuretted Hydrogen;) the fish comes to the surface, swims in circles impatiently, and dies before twenty-four hours: the water about this time becomes most offensive.

4. If salt water be put into an iron vessel and boiled over a brisk fire till nothing but the dry salts remain, it will be found that a tea spoonful and a half of this salt, added to a quart beer bottle of fresh tank water, will keep alive a fish the size of a small minnow, for a considerable length of time, without any change of water being required for months: this simple fact took me months and months to arrive at, and it now affords me the greatest pleasure to make the result of my successful experiments known.

5. No food should be given to the fish, beyond a fly or smashed cockroach now and then.

6. Freshly caught fish should be kept in a vessel at least twenty-four hours by themselves, before being placed with those already in the aquarium.



7. To prove how successful the above plan has been, I should here add that I have brought fish alive from Port Blair to Calcutta that had at least been three months in the same water, and the latter was as fresh as possible up to that time.

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*Observations on a few Species of Geckos alive in the possession of the author.—By LT.-COL. R. C. TYTLER.*

[Received 27th March, 1864.]

*Port Blair, 1st January, 1864.*

On several occasions lately, interesting living specimens of Geckoid Lizards have been brought from the jungles, which has induced me to make an attempt to keep them alive, for the purpose of observing their habits more closely, than appears generally to have been done; in order to accomplish this object I have been obliged to resort to many expedients, and the only one that has proved successful has been the following: I have had a great many boxes made of light deal wood, two sides of which are glass: the wooden portion is perforated with holes in every direction, so as to admit of air passing freely through: one of the glass sides forms a slide to allow of the box being opened when an animal is put into it; at one end of the box is a small tin trough for water, similar to that used in Canary cages and at the bottom there is an inch of clean sand: a small branch put into the box for the use of Arboreal species, completes the arrangement, the tin for water is always kept full, and a number of living flies, or young cockroaches are kept loose in the box, and I find that this is sufficient for all the requirements of these Lizards.

My boxes vary in size, but the most convenient are 10 inches by 6, and two inches wide, or 6 inches by 4, also two inches in width; but as the glasses are liable to accidental breakage, I have in a measure contrived to provide for and meet this, by having a separate light wooden box made, capable of holding six of the glass cases: this not only protects the glass, but keeps the freshly caught animal quiet, from being in the dark, and undisturbed, which it greatly prefers; and prevents the restlessness it shews on such occasions in the light.

Without in any way wishing to question the existing classification of saurian animals adopted by naturalists, I feel in the present